Rene Mansho, Chair Mufi Hannemann, Vice-Chair John Henry Felix, Member Andy Mirikitani, Member Jon Yoshimura, Member

NOTICE

THERE SHALL BE A MEETING OF THE SISTER CITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE

DATE:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1996

TIME:

3:00 P.M.

PLACE:

MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM

HONOLULU HALE, THIRD FLOOR

CHAIR:

COUNCILMEMBER RENE MANSHO

AGENDA

Membership to National Organization

Committee Reports:

- 1. Policy/Intergovernmental
- 2. Economic Development
- Cultural

Note: The public is invited to attend this task force meeting for information. Oral testimony will not be accepted.

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CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

RENE MANSHO, COUNCILMEMBER (808) ph 547-7001\ fax 545-3253 e-mail: rmansho@gold.chem.hawaii.edu

SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM AUGUST 6, 1996 MINUTES

I. Meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Councilmember Rene Mansho

II. ATTENDANCE:

A. Committee Members:

Rene Mansho, Councilmember (Co-Chair)
Lynette Char, Mayor's Office (Co-Chair)
Hattie Dixon, Hawaii Visitor's Bureau
Kenneth Chong, Chinese Chamber
Valerie Evans, Honolulu Community College
Robert Mathews, ICICX
Dr. Glenn Miyataki, JAIMS
Dennis Fujii, CINCPAC
Bill Brophy, Hispanic Chamber
Richard Bahar. DBEDT
Ronald Ushijima, Japanese Chamber
Gen. Herbert Wolff, Consular Corps
Kimo Keawe, Aloha Festivals
Audrey Keesing, N.O.W.
Dr. Helen Chapin, Hawaii Pacific University

B. Others in Attendance:
Rich Nano, Councilmember Hanneman Staff

III. Report by Lynette Char, Task Force Co-Chair

Update on sister cities activities: Mayor Mauricio Domogan of Baguio City, Philippines, will be in Honolulu August 12-17, 1996. A welcome reception will be held on August 12th at the McCoy Pavillion at 6:00 p.m. and task force members are invited.

A Vietnamese delegation from **Dong Nai Province** met with representatives from the Office of the Mayor on August 5th. The Hawaii-Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce hosted a reception August 5th at the Plaza Club which was attended by Councilmember Mansho.

IV. Policy/Intergovernmental Committee Report (Gen. Herb Wolff)

Gen. Wolff was charged with recommendations for establishing a basic policy for the establishment of sister cities relations. He reported that Resolution 91-240 sets forth basic policy that is applicable except for criteria policy no. 3, pertaining to specific requirements for population size of sister cities. There are existing sister cities of the City and County of Honolulu that do not meet this criteria, so the recommendation was made to amend this criteria.

It was also pointed out by Gen. Wolff that the 1996 directory of Sister Cities International (SCI) recognized only 12 out of the 15 sister cities of the City and County of Honolulu. Lynette Char explained that the two newest sister cities were names in late 1995 and that the omission of Puerto Rico is probably just an oversight. Lynette will check with SCI about these omissions. Gen. Wolff also indicated that the 1996 SCI materials may include some new rules. He felt that we should consider the emphasis on economic development as we think about establishment of new sister cities relationships.

Membership in SCI was discussed and Lynette Char reported that she is awaiting assessment dues for Honolulu, which is estimated between \$1,000 and \$1,200. She indicated that the Office of the Mayor will find the funds to pay assessment dues.

Robert Mathews asked if there is an affiliate membership that would be available at a reduced membership fee, or a level of membership that had more flexibility as to its requirements.

V. Economic Development Committee (Ron Ushijima reported for Paul Rehob)

(see attached written report)

A question arose as to how dictatorial SCI can be in mandating one city-one relationship policy.

Discussion brought up on determining sister cities relationships by criteria that includes women's rights, gender equity. Question asked if this was intent of task force?

VI. Other Discussion

- 1. Appointment of someone to fill slot as State Coordinator to SCI. Gen. Wolff recommended that Lynette Char be designated the State Coordinator since she has been the point of contact with SCI.
- 2. Discussion on sister-state relations. Richard Bahar is new representative from DBEDT replacing Galen Fox. There are two sister-state relationships, Hiroshima and Cebu.
- 3. Councilmember Mansho felt there was a need to include a Cultural Committee on this task force.

- 4. Question arose as to the application process for cities wanting to have sister city relationship with Honolulu. Which side initiates and who determines. A suggestion was there should be an application form which would include an inquiry as to why the relationship would be mutually beneficial and what the applying city could offer to Honolulu.
- 5. Another suggestion was that there be a master sister cities calendar of events for Honolulu Sister Cities.
- 6. Suggestion that perhaps the 1997 Mayors and Chamber of Commerce Presidents Conference can be a conduit for a Sister Cities meeting.
- 7. Councilmember Mansho said that all task force members would be notified of the next meeting of the Policy and Intergovernmental Committee meetings. Date has yet to be set.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Next meeting is scheduled for **September 17th, 3:00 p.m**. in the Mayor's Conference Room